

Executive Registry

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**United States Senate**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

WH

March 5, 1986

Honorable Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We urge your appointment of Ambassador Bill Middendorf as President of the World Bank. Because of the international debt crises, the importance of our relations with the Third World, the central role to be played by the bank in the Baker Initiative concerning debt currency alignments, and the high priority of economic growth in the less developed nations, we think that Bill's appointment is vitally important.

Few have Ambassador Middendorf's financial experience which includes serving as the CEO of a multi-state bank, owner of an insurance investment group and an investment bank that dealt with third world businesses. In addition, he has a longstanding record of service to his nation as Secretary of the Navy, Ambassador of the Hague, Ambassador to the Organization of American States, as well as Ambassador to the European Community.

Ambassador Middendorf has an impeccable history of loyal service to you and your Administration. In 1980, he served as Finance Chairman of the Reagan Campaign; in 1981, he was Treasurer of the Presidential Inaugural Committee, and later served as the head of the Intelligence Transition Team. In addition to his duties in Brussels, he is currently the Chairman of the Presidential Task Force for Economic Justice, which extends your philosophy of private initiative to a vexing problem.

Ambassador Middendorf is genuinely committed to utilizing the resources of the World Bank to encourage private entrepreneurial, non-governmental development. He has written extensively of the need for the World Bank and other international economic institutions to adhere to the fundamental principle that private enterprise creates more lasting economic progress than government directed development projects.

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The World Bank is an organization that can be of great aid to the United States and all free nations, but it has not been utilized to its fullest potential in promoting worldwide free enterprise and economic growth.

The future of the World Bank and the U.S. participation therein would best be served by the appointment of someone who understands the essential need for a reordering of its priorities in a way that creates real, lasting, private sector opportunities in developing countries. Ambassador Middendorf meets this need. We urge you put his considerable knowledge and skill to work for the World Bank.

Respectfully,

James Helms

John Warner

John P. East

Clare Hitch

Strom Thurmond

Steve Symington

James A. McClure

Jim Abdnor

Mark Matthews

Patricia Wilson

John H. Chafee  
Ed Armbrister

Benjamin  
White